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The Highlander

Thursday **March 5 2026** | Issue 729

INSIDE: FIGURE SKATERS SHOWCASE THEIR SKILLS PAGE 19 **FREE**

Ian "Scotty" Morrison spoke at the Pinestone after being awarded a surprise Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

County remembers 'Scotty'

By Lisa Gervais

In memorializing Ian "Scotty" Morrison, who passed away last week, Carol Moffatt said he was "a fine man, a loving father, an National Hockey League (NHL) icon, and a good family friend."

While tributes have been pouring in from the NHL, the Hockey Hall of Fame, national sports streaming channels, and national newspapers, Scotty is being remembered locally for his time in the Highlands.

He and wife Joan lived in the GTA during Scotty's career as an NHL official, referee in chief, executive, and later as a president, chairman, and chief executive officer, of the Hockey Hall of Fame.

The couple moved to the cottage in Haliburton County before Scotty left for B.C. in 2018.

Moffatt recalled how her mom and dad, Bruce and Betty, visited often with the Morrisons "and, of course, with Scotty's immeasurable contributions to the

Continued **'He'** on page 2

Dysart to fight Elephant Lake development

By Lisa Gervais

Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey told County of Haliburton council at its last meeting that his township will continue to fight a proposed development of 25 residential lots, 38 cottage lots, and three blocks for waterfront access, as well as condominium roads, fronting Elephant Lake.

Director of planning, Elizabeth Purcell, brought the file to the Feb. 25 County council meeting. Her report included background information on a proposed draft plan of subdivision and common element condominium.

She said some of her initial key findings are that the land contains provincially-significant wetlands, watercourses, and regulatory floodplain areas, "creating significant environmental constraints."

She added her preliminary review, "identifies potential consistency issues with the 2024 Provincial Planning Statement, particularly regarding rural development, natural heritage, and flood hazards."

She said the developers are proposing private wells and septic systems, with multiple technical studies having been submitted to support the suitability. She said other, key, supporting studies, such as an environmental impact study, hydrogeology, lakeshore capacity, boating capacity, stormwater, archeology, and landfill review are now under third-party peer review.

Purcell noted a related official plan amendment was denied by Dysart et al council and appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

During a short discussion, coun.

Continued **'Fearrey'** on page 5

Highlander news

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Ian "Scotty" Morrison holds a Team Canada jersey at his Haliburton home. *File.*

'He was just this lovely man'

Continued from page 1

community, they saw each other often when out and about."

She went on to describe Scotty as a man "of fierce pride, integrity and conviction. His generosity was incomparable and his contributions abundant."

CanoeFM manager Roxanne Casey met Scotty when she was working with Community Care, and through his involvement with the Scotty Morrison Charity Hockey Tournament. She then had dealings with him when he was honourary chair of the Canoe board 2017-2019. She recalled how she had a cousin visit from Scotland and Scotty toured her cousin by boat around the lake.

"He was just this most lovely man. He would do anything for Haliburton County. He was involved with so many organizations. There was nothing you could say about him that wasn't gentlemanly. If you were lucky enough to have him involved in your organization, he was a champion for whatever organization he was involved in."

Scotty also did a once-a-week hockey talk show with Paul Cameron on CanoeFM. "Scotty loved doing that. If he was away from here, he would phone in. If he was here, he would come in. And he was always giving away Hockey Hall of Fame tickets." He would tease Casey, as she didn't like hockey.

Casey added that Scotty also worshipped his family.

Former NHL player, and Dysart et al deputy mayor, Walt McKechnie, said, "he was just such a positive, upbeat guy in the community. He always did all kinds of things for charity. He loved the community."

Surprise party

The community surprised Morrison with a Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers on Dec. 28, 2016. About 120 people were on hand, along with the Stanley Cup. VIP's included former Hockey Hall of Fame president and CEO Jeff Denomme, former OPP commissioner Julian Fantino, and senior vice president of hockey operations with the NHL, the late, Jim Gregory.

A surprised Morrison thanked the crowd "from the bottom of my heart. This has just been a very special day that I will obviously never forget. I will wear the small badge with honour."

Speaking to the hockey tournament, former HHHS foundation chair Don Popple said on the night, "we got the NHL, we got the Stanley Cup, we got the hall of fame and we got this group of hockey personnel that classed up our tournament completely. Scotty has a great deal of passion towards any job he decides to do and that is why we are celebrating today." The tournament ran for seven years.

On the night, Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey spoke of Morrison's commitment to community, no matter where he's been.

"When he came to Haliburton, he was instantly accepted and fit in and he got involved. It was his personality. He is just a very good, solid person, with a love of family."

Morrison was born in Montreal in 1930 and died in B.C. Feb 25 at the age of 95.

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Highlander news

Women's group sparks interest in trades

By Mike Baker

When Sara Burtch was in elementary school, she remembers filling out a career aptitude test giving students a list of jobs their personality and interests most align with.

"I got plumber – and everybody made fun of me for it. So, I never really looked into it the way I should or took it seriously," Burtch said.

Now, years later, she's enjoying a fulfilling career working with G.J. Burtch Construction. Four years into her foray in the trades, Burtch tells *The Highlander* it's the best decision she's ever made.

"It's funny, because now I can do a lot of the things a plumber does. I can change filters and swap out toilets. It's made me wonder how, if everyone hadn't laughed at me, would I have gone down this path years ago? I have a daughter who is interested in construction. I don't want women growing up today going through the things I did, thinking 'I can't do that because that's a man's job'."

With that in mind, Burtch is one of the driving forces behind the Haliburton County Home Builders Association's (HCHBA) new 'women in construction' group. She and Aggie Tose, HCHBA's executive officer, got the idea after attending a Canadian home builders national conference last fall and hearing from other regional entities how successful they'd been developing women-only meets.

An inaugural gathering is being held at The Link in Haliburton March 6 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

"We're hoping to get more women out to volunteer and start having more of a presence in the community. Our long-term plan is to have our own board for women in the trades," Burtch said.

Over the past few months, Burtch said she's been developing her own inventory of women that she knows are working in the industry – noting, after talking with her husband, Andrew, and father-in-law, Gary, that numbers are way up from even 10 years ago.

"There have always been a few around Haliburton, but it was not really talked about. Even for me – a lot of people know my husband, but I'm often the one carrying the extra load that he can't get to. I'm hoping to reach a lot of these women in the background that perhaps we don't know about who might be willing to come forward and start to get more involved," Burtch said, noting the group is open to anyone – not just HCHBA members.

Burtch will be at Hal High next month for HCHBA's annual job fair. While she'll be actively promoting opportunities at her firm, she's also willing to discuss all potential career paths in the trades for young women. Through this new group, she's hoping to develop a pool of workers willing to go into the high school to talk about how they broke in.

"Something where we can bring a female plumber or electrician in to speak to kids about their journey, because we all have a story," Burtch said.

She noted HCHBA routinely assists young professionals – men and women - starting on their path to purchase tools and get help with training.

Burtch believes encouraging more women to pursue careers in the trades would benefit the industry.

"And not just in terms of numbers, but in perspective too," Burtch said. "Don't be put off by failing or feeling like you don't know enough. When I first went out working with my husband, I thought it was a huge mistake. Then the more he talked about things, the more I learned. Before long, I was making suggestions to him about how to try something a different way.

Sara Burtch says the trades have never been more attainable for women. *Submitted.*

"Men and women look at things differently, so to have both perspectives, I find, it really helps to see things a little clearer and get more of a full picture," she added.

Minden Hills collects 15 hippos worth of textiles

By Lisa Gervais

Chelsea Cosh, manager of waste facilities, provided Minden Hills council, Feb. 26, with an overview of waste and recycling activity for 2025.

She noted they added a new textile recycling program at the Ingoldsby transfer station; held a second annual trash or treat Halloween event; celebrated national pollinator week; and amped up public education and promotional efforts, including the purchase of two mobile signs.

Cosh said the average hippopotamus weighs up to 1.5 tonnes, and the 23.05 tonnes of textile material collected (they also collect at Scotch Line) is equivalent to more than 15 hippos.

There were three household hazardous waste events. Cosh said 619 people attended, with 23,281 kilograms collected – more than the weight of a recycling truck.

There were two confidential paper shredding events, with 102 people attending. The events collected food and toiletries for the Minden Community Food Centre.

As for waste and recycling, some standout numbers included brush doubling in 2025, from 2024 (200 tonnes versus 100 tonnes). There was more construction and bulky waste: 1,584.05 tonnes, up from 1,057.8. Empty plastic auto containers were way up: to 1,830.4 kgs, from 740.

Cosh said the average adult cow can weigh up to 800 kgs, so the empty plastic auto containers were the equivalent of more than two cows.

The township also collected 2,111 kgs of household batteries, up from 1,150. Lighting material was way up, to 2,661 units, from 1,701. Oil filters were up to 150 units, from 25, and much more was collected in the reuse centre.

Cosh said all four sites, Scotch Line, Ingoldsby, Little Gull and Iron Mine, saw more vehicles.

"Staff continue to look for innovative and cost-effective ways to offer existing recycling and diversion programs to residents, as well as opportunities for new programs. These efforts, along with positive recycling habits from residents, help reduce the amount of waste that is going into the landfill. This in turn extends the life of the landfill and reduces the township's carbon footprint," Cosh said.

"At the end of 2024, the Scotch Line landfill has a remaining lifespan of approximately 14 years. This has increased by two years from the 2023 report."

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Cops and kids teaming up

By Lisa Gervais

On a recent Friday afternoon, Dylan Cooney was busy washing OPP vehicles at the detachment in Minden.

The Gr. 9 student is the first of his kind in Ontario – as the local cop shop pilots a program that could extend across the province. He comes in for two hours every Friday to wash car exteriors.

The 15-year-old said he's always liked police cars, and policing in general, and has an interest in the military.

"I figured this would be a good way to start it off." By starting it off, he means one day potentially working in either policing or the military.

He's so far enjoying the work and interacting with the officers. "You get to talk to them and see the other side, when they are not out on the streets."

One day, he too would like to make the community a safer place. "You want to make sure there's no speeders because there are more accidents. There are more dangerous drivers out there now and the OPP is there to help people in need."

The student car washer is just one of three youth initiatives emanating from the OPP detachment in Minden. It is also starting a youth in policing academy, and hiring its first-ever summer student.

Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment commander Deb McClure recalls being exposed to the DARE (drug abuse resistance education) program when she was in school. DARE is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children from kindergarten to Grade 12 how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives.

McClure said "that officer did make an impression on me."

She said the three programs are all about positive interaction between cops and kids, and maybe helping with recruitment one day.

"Recruiting, in general, is just really important to me; especially coming here and learning we haven't had a ton of applicants from the community," McClure said.

She added she is keen to share "the great opportunity this is as a career, and showing them so they can see for themselves. That is a motivator for me.

"It is a very critical time for youth. If they have some positive engagement with us - because a lot of time they are only seeing the negative engagement - it can touch someone's life and is why it is a passion of mine for sure."

Dylan Cooney washes cars at the OPP detachment in Minden. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Youth in policing academy

The 'youth in policing academy' is now accepting applications from students in Grades 9-12, who live in the Highlands, and are interested in learning more about a career in policing.

McClure said participants will gain hands-on insight into a variety of policing areas, including general patrol duties, major criminal investigations, canine services, emergency response, forensic identification, and impaired driving investigations.

The academy will be hosted at the detachment Wednesdays from 5-7 p.m., starting March 25, and concluding April 29.

Applications are available at the detachment in Minden, or at the front desk of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School. Applications can be submitted at either location. The application deadline is March 9. Successful applicants will be notified by email.

McClure said she hopes the academy becomes an annual thing.

Summer student

Meanwhile, the detachment is looking to hire a summer student in 2026. It's the first time they have gotten one under the Canada Summer Jobs program.

They are looking for a student, or recent graduate, seeking "meaningful work experience, transferable skills, and the chance to grow your professional network."

Apply online through the OPS Careers Portal (GoJobs.gov.on.ca) and search for job ID 239472.

Fearrey condemns development on sensitive wetlands

Continued from page 1

Jennifer Dailloux asked about the sensitive wetlands, and the fact the developers are saying property owners would not be able to access them to get to the shoreline. Rather than every lot accessing the lake, the plan calls for three blocks for waterfront access.

Dailloux asked how that would be enforced to ensure people are not accessing the lake from their lots. "Who would be responsible? How often would they be checking. What's the teeth behind that?"

Purcell said it was a bit of a "precarious situation because people are people and if you have a shoreline lot, a lot of people would like to access the water from their own lot. It would be an enforcement matter through the Municipality of Dysart, or through the province, as it is a provincially-significant wetland."

Dailloux then asked Dysart what it thought would be possible from an enforcement standpoint.

Fearrey told her, "that's one of the reasons we turned it down. We can't handle this. If they get this approved, then we might as well forget about trying to protect our lakes and our wetlands. It's just a terrible proposal. So, we're going to fight it as hard as we can to make sure it gets defeated."

Purcell said the land is now vacant with existing access via Benoir Lake Road. She said the site is 122 hectares, with a little over 1.6 km of frontage on the road, and more than three kilometres on the lake.

The planning director said the County received the file Feb. 9. Staff will make its recommendation at a later date.

People can submit comments, be notified, or get additional information from epurcell@haliburtoncounty.ca or 705-286-1333 x 222.

Purcell noted if a person, or public body, does not make written submissions to the County before the approval authority gives, or refuses to give, approval they are not entitled to appeal the decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

The area that is being proposed for development. *County of Haliburton.*

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DYSART ET AL NEWS

Council ponders gym support

Dysart et al council is considering whether to give a prospective non-profit a break on thousands of dollars of planning and building application fees.

Kathy Judson of Haliburton Gymnastics told council she hopes to open a professional facility at 367 Industrial Park Rd. this year. She said the closest sanctioned gymnastics clubs are an hour or more away from Haliburton village and that she wants to provide a local option for families.

"Not only will it fill a gap in a much-needed service for our youth, but it will benefit our local economy. Families regularly leave Haliburton for sports and in doing so, they buy their gas, groceries and all kinds of things in other towns," Judson said.

So far, she's secured $100,000 from the Haliburton County Development Corporation to transition the space and has raised another $30,000 – with around $70,000 still required.

Before she can proceed, Judson said she has to rezone the building, have the septic system reviewed and put a site plan application together. She told how, in Bracebridge, the municipality partnered with the Muskoka Gymnastics Club to help get that project in motion.

"I'm not here to ask Dysart to create funding for our club, but simply to support us by eliminating future payments that will set us back significantly in our fundraising efforts," Judson said.

Planning director Jeff Iles pegged the costs at $8,000 but noted it could be significantly more pending the outcome of an initial septic review.

Mayor Murray Fearrey said he wanted to help, but that council needed to be fair and consistent with community requests. He pitched delaying a decision until council's March 24 meeting so that council has a full understanding of how much it will be waiving.

"I'd like to make sure we get this right and we treat everyone the same. I understand the need for the community to have this service and think it's admirable you're doing it. But I'd like a chance for more dialogue with staff," Fearrey said, with council agreeing to defer the request.

Kathy Judson is asking Dysart et al council to waive $8,000 in municipal fees to help get Haliburton Gymnastics up and running. *Photo submitted.*

STR complaints

Dysart's bylaw department has received a record number of short-term rental-related complaints to start the new year.

Staffer Abigail Roberts said the township investigated 22 complaints in January – a huge rise from last year's 12-month total of 15. Asked by counc. Barry Boice about the source of the complaints, Roberts said they were mostly from neighbours who suspected STRs were running over occupancy.

"They see a lot of cars there and call in. Often, it's just people having family over," Roberts said. "My first step is to look for an advertised posting online. Some have been over occupancy for the septic code. There have been some showing an occupancy limit of 10 people on a three-bed system. I've issued some warnings to change the occupancy or we'll be issuing fees."

Waste management events

Environmental manager Ashley Dembinski said the township has a full schedule of events planned this year to divert waste from municipal landfills.

Dysart is hosting three household hazardous waste events in 2026, the first June 20 at the Haliburton landfill. Others are planned at the Harcourt landfill Aug. 15 and the West Guilford landfill Sept. 12. Combined, they'll cost $70,000 to run.

The 'New to You' community yard sale is returning for its fifth-annual event July 4, taking place in the A.J. LaRue parking lot. Dembinski said people can reach out to staff if they want to secure a spot.

The third-annual Great Haliburton Clothing Swap will be held in the Great Hall at the Haliburton School of Art + Design Oct. 3. Run in partnership with Fleming College, it's open to everyone with Dembinski saying people are invited to pick out as much clothing, shoes and accessories as they'd like.

Roads win

In a rare piece of positive budgetary news, public works director Rob Camelon said the township's road resurfacing tender for the year came in $277,697 under budget.

After setting aside $1.28 million to redo the entirety of the Halbiem Crescent subdivision and portions of Fred Jones Road, Wenona Lake Road, Meadowview Road, Industrial Park Road, Eastern Avenue, Pine Avenue, Humber Avenue, Dome Street, Harmony Road and Mink Road, the township awarded the contract to Greenwood Paving for just over $1 million.

"This was quite a nice surprise," Camelon said.

(Dysart et al news compiled by Mike Baker)

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County of Haliburton director of community outreach, Sue Tiffin. *Submitted.*

COUNTY OF HALIBURTON NEWS

Seniors active living fair

Director of community outreach, Sue Tiffin, told County council Feb. 25 they'd been contacted by the Older Adult Centres' Association of Ontario with an opportunity to host a seniors active living fair.

She said the fair – dedicated to promoting active and healthy living for seniors – will be held Friday, March 13 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Haliburton Legion.

Tiffin said it will feature exercise demonstrations, speakers on topics such as local health services, fraud and scam information, and emergency preparedness. She added there would be information booths from local organizations, and a complimentary light lunch.

She said it was a great way to share information about community resources, promote the Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) program and activities, "and brings folks together for an engaging morning."

County's latest hire

The County has hired a community safety and well-being plan coordinator.

Tiffin said Alicia Payne, previously administrative clerk for the County, transitioned to the role Feb. 23

"Her enthusiasm, insight and initiative are already much appreciated by colleagues and community partners and she is such a good fit for this role and this work. We are looking forward to her doing great things for this community. She already has been. She is a wonderful addition to our County." Tiffin said.

Community resources fair coming up

Tiffin said two community services and ID clinics have been scheduled in 2026.

They are on April 9 and Oct. 22 at the Haliburton Legion. The April event aligns with a tax clinic being held by the Central Food Network.

Tiffin said Service Canada and Service Ontario, as well as local organizations and agencies, will provide support in one place, and Haliburton Highlands Health Services will provide door-to-door transportation for residents who require it.

Available services include pensions (Canada Pension Program, Old Age Security), social insurance numbers, health cards, birth certificates, literacy and basic skills support, harm reduction resources, employment services and photo ID cards. Passports are not available at the clinics.

Tiffin said the clinics are designed to reduce barriers for residents who require identification and support services. She added that through the clinics, "residents are able to more easily access services, be referred to other services that are also on site, and meet with service providers face-to-face. While designed to help support the most vulnerable residents in the County, it is open to everyone."

Accessibility awards

Nominations close March 31 for the inaugural Haliburton County Accessibility Awards program.

Tiffin said they are looking to recognize a community member, business, or organization committed to accessibility in Haliburton County. There is also a category for youth, 25 and under.

Recipients will be awarded during National AccessAbility Week in May.

The awards are for those "working to build a more inclusive community and making a difference in the lives of citizens of Haliburton County living with a disability," Tiffin said.

They will cover things such as built environment, customer service, education, employment, health care, information and communication.

Alternative formats for the application are available by contacting the County of Haliburton accessibility coordinator at accessibility@haliburtoncounty.ca.

New tandem axle plow truck

Director of public works, Sylvin Cloutier, got council approval to buy a 2026 tandem axle plow truck.

Cloutier recommended they buy from Winslow-Gerolamy Motors Limited, for $451,740.12 including nonrecoverable taxes, which was under the $457,000 budget.

He said the truck will replace a 2015 plow truck that will be 12 years old by the time of replacement. "It's being noted that the recommended replacement schedule for this type of vehicle is nine years," Cloutier said.

(County of Haliburton news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

ADVERTORIAL

How much of a pond is beaver?

By Simon Payn

When does a tree end and the forest begin? How much of a pond is beaver? What percentage of me is me?

These are the things I think about in the shower. No wonder my propane bill is so high.

They are, however, important questions about how the world is made – and they directly affect how we landscape around our homes and cottages. I'll try to explain.

We're talking about the fundamental units of life here, and what my hot-water ponderings are teaching me is that it's not as simple as "a tree", "a beaver", and "a human."

Look at that sugar maple by your cottage. Its influence extends far beyond its trunk and branches. Its roots feed fungal networks that connect to other trees. Its leaf litter builds the soil that other plants grow in. Its canopy creates the shade and moisture conditions that determine what lives beneath it. You could say the tree is making the forest.

> When we create landscapes that fit in with the world, we fit in with the world, too.

But you could also say the forest is making the tree. It would struggle to survive without those same fungal networks – nutrients go both ways. It would be hungry without decomposers breaking down leaves into food.

So where does the tree end and the forest begin?

Look at the beaver in the local wetland. Its dam makes the pond, which changes the water level, which creates wetland edges where new plants can live, which builds fish habitat. You could say the landscape is beaver in wood, water, and mud because the whole thing is a creation of the rodent's compulsion to build dams.

The beaver is pond, too. It needs the trees it fells, the water flow it redirects, the food and shelter the pond provides. Break the dam and the beaver needs to get busy rebuilding it.

Now look at yourself. You host trillions of microorganisms that would not exist without a home in your gut. There are as many bacterial cells in your body as there are human cells. So how much of you is you?

It's not a one-way street, either. Those gut bacteria break down foods and provide vitamins. The mitochondria in your cells that produce your energy were once separate bacteria. Perhaps the thing that powers you is not… you?

Which all brings me back to landscaping.

We're taught to look at the plants as separate units. We go to the nursery and buy "a rose" or "a ninebark" or "a geranium." We're led to believe that each plant functions alone, as an island. Sometimes it seems that choosing plants is like choosing furniture for a new home. You've got a blank canvas and you need to fill it with chairs, a table, lamps, beds.

It's clear to me, however, that creating a landscape is nothing like furnishing a room. At least if we want it to function well.

That's why I design gardens and shorelines to make communities, working with what is already there and adding to the rich web of relationships in the landscape.

Those sedges on a slope have roots that are holding the soil together, providing the conditions for other plants to grow. Those irises by the shoreline are filtering run-off from your driveway, keeping the lake clean and providing conditions fish thrive in. Those goldenrods you chose for fall colour are helping pollinators build reserves for winter.

All of these plants need the soil created by other plants. They need the pollinators fed by other plants.

Everything is everything else. The grasses are sparrows and the coneflowers are bees. The soil is birch and the butterflies are milkweeds.

And us? We are all of those things, too. Which is why when we create landscapes that fit in with the world, we fit in with the world, too. And that, it seems to me, is a nice way to live.

Simon Payn owns Grounded, which designs, installs and cares for ecological landscapes in Haliburton County. See groundedgardens.ca

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander
Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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It's okay to say 'no'

By Lisa Gervais

I applaud Dysart et al council for fighting a proposed development facing Elephant Lake in the Harcourt area.

The file is now before the County of Haliburton and we learned a little bit about it last week.

The proponent wants to build 25 residential lots, 38 cottage lots, and have three blocks for waterfront access, as well as condominium roads.

The site is now vacant with existing access from Benoir Lake Road. It's a massive 122 hectares, with a little over 1.6 km of frontage on the road, and more than three kilometres on the lake.

Because it is in an area with provincially-significant wetlands, watercourses, and regulatory floodplain, it's not ideal.

Further, the proponent is telling Dysart and the County that owners of these lots won't access the lake from their properties, but will go to the three lots designated for lake access.

We find that hard to believe. The proponents may believe that but we know people are people.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux asked the question. How will that be policed? The planner told her by Dysart et al or the province.

Dysart et al mayor Murry Fearrey told County councillors his township doesn't have the resources to be out at Elephant Lake regularly to see who is cutting paths to the lake or putting docks or boats in.

Fearrey said if the development is approved, we might as well forget about trying to protect our lakes and our wetlands. He called it a terrible proposal. He reiterated they are going to fight it. Dysart feels so strongly about this that they denied a related official plan development and it's being appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

I have to say it reminds me of the proposed development for Centre Lake in Highlands East – a file that has been before that municipality for years.

The proponent there wants to build on 115 hectares of a 431-hectare parcel. The land there abuts a 200-foot Crown Reserve, with the first 66-feet an original shore road allowance established prior to the reserve.

The shoreline has been arguably the most contentious issue to date. Highlands East council did not support the disposition of the Crown Reserve in 2021. It also voted not to close and convey an unopened road allowance in 2024.

The latest plans call for 18 lots, and two island lots, for detached dwellings; 13 backlots for detached dwellings; four open space blocks; a block for commercial use on Hwy. 118 and a common private road.

Again, the proponent is saying lot owners won't access the lake from their yards, but will do so on communal blocks.

Once again, I find it hard to believe that someone is going to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on a waterfront lot, and not make a path to the lake, put in a dock, or a boat. They are not going to dutifully march down to the public access lot. And Highlands East and the province don't have the resources to go out there and make sure people are following rules.

We're not anti-development here in the Highlands, but we do believe in responsible development. And if it is our intent to protect the lakes and wetlands in our municipalities, these are the sorts of developments that we need to push back on.

It is okay to say 'no' when development does not meet the values of our County.

SAWDUST STORIES

Beauty to be harvested

By Darren Lum

I'm not sure whether I understand life better now or if I've simply learned to look more closely, but I know this much: the older we get, the less we know and the more we recognize our ignorance.

As the months pass, I'm gaining confidence working on job sites, but I'm also expanding my understanding of the people who help build homes in the Haliburton Highlands.

It's a bit like listening to a friend's playlist. You gain a new perspective on who they are, how they see the world, and how they express themselves. It's a spectrum of understanding, delivered song by song. Lyrics are often misheard, meanings misinterpreted, metaphors missed altogether. I think the same applies to people. We catch only a snapshot as they pass us by, yet we're quick to make judgments based on what little we see.

The grizzled face with a five o'clock shadow. Knurled hands and chipped nails. Tanned skin. A laboured walk. Stained trousers with holes, or a hoodie faded by days in the sun. To an outsider, this can read as neglect or weariness. But to anyone who has spent time on a worksite, it tells a different story.

There is purpose in that appearance; evidence of physical toil under a hot sun, exposed to the elements, a discipline forged in work that is unforgiving to the body. In many ways, trade workers are walking billboards for the labour behind the beauty. The more weathered the body, the more refined the finished home: clean lines, careful joins, warmth and shelter shaped by hands that carry the marks of the work itself.

Art and creativity are the connective tissue that bind us as humans, and I see this clearly in the process of building a home; particularly in moments that demand both skill and imagination, like crafting a stone fireplace. There is intention, expression, and care in the work.

For all the brawn on display at a worksite, there is also deeply rooted intelligence at play in every build. It isn't exhibited like an art show, nor confined to centrepieces or featured elements. Instead, it lives in the accents; the small decisions, the details, the problem-solving touches that often go unnoticed, much like the people behind the homes themselves.

Having our identities wrapped up in what we do for a living has always rubbed me the wrong way. It's a kind of shorthand rooted in an outdated way of assessing people; one that inevitably shortchanges them. Even when I've benefited from the assumptions associated with being a storyteller; creativity, introspection; it still feels limiting. It fails to capture who people truly are.

We are more than our appearances, our jobs, and what we project to the world around us. We are fathers, sons, brothers, uncles, step-dads, volunteer firefighters, dreamers; complex and contradictory, full of insecurity and confidence, love and hate.

We're fallible, yes, but also capable of more than we can imagine. Too often, we get in our own way instead of allowing growth to happen. There is beauty waiting to be harvested if we let it; through curiosity, patience, and grace for each other and ourselves.

White collar. Blue collar. These labels presuppose and compartmentalize, offering outsiders an easy shorthand. But they discount the people behind them and do little to reveal the truth. Humanity isn't confined to categories. It shows itself in the calloused hands and confident cuts, the unheralded intelligence behind the walls and within the rafters.

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Thank you

Dear editor,

Thank you for your probing coverage of Xavier's dismissal (Dean Xavier Massé) and the ongoing disconnect between Fleming College and the Haliburton community.

Thank you for reaching out to Barb Bolin for perspective, and especially for the call-to-action closing out your editorial. Yes - we'd like to see Fleming come here to begin to build bridges, answer our questions... And yes - to recognize and celebrate the Municipality of Dysart's contribution with an 'opening' and public tours of the student residence on campus.

An immediate move to welcome a Haliburton resident on the governance board of directors would show good faith by the college.

Pamela Marsales
Haliburton

We want to hear from you

Send us your opinion on any and all things related to living in the County

editor@thehighlander.ca

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Fred Pyziak captured this photo of a baby eagle on the Drag River.

HUMANS OF HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

Health worker feels wanted and needed

By Susan Tromanhauser

Beverly Walker is a wanted woman.

As a personal support worker, Walker, like others with her certification, is not only wanted - she is needed in Haliburton County. With statistics indicating the County's population is quickly aging, there is concern over increased strain on our healthcare system. But, when Walker recently moved to Haliburton at the age of 60, she knew she was not contributing to the problem, but helping with a solution.

Walker has spent most of her life as a caregiver for family. She looked after her mother for an extended period of time, but after she passed away, Walker panicked. She was "afraid of being alone" and knew she "needed to take care of people." A PSW was a perfect position for Walker, but she needed to be certified. So, in her 50s, she returned to school.

With her PSW certificate in hand, Walker moved to Haliburton eight months ago. She was offered five health care positions in one month. She accepted two jobs, working with Bayshore Health and Gotcare. While she has previous experience in long-term care facilities, Walker prefers being in a client's home, assisting them one-on-one. The people she cares for "become like family." Walker admits some tasks can be difficult, but she reads the documents prior to visiting and knows what to expect. Some patients balk at accepting the help they need, uncomfortable with having to give up independence; but Walker finds a way to ensure clients' needs are met with dignity.

Growing up in Scarborough and spending most of her adult life in the Durham area, Walker enjoys the "peace and fresh air" of Haliburton. She has adapted to the area enjoying the 14 deer that greet her each morning and evening in her driveway. "They know my car." In turn, Walker knows each deer by their markings, but refuses to name them, afraid it will break her heart if something happens and they don't return.

Since her move to Haliburton, Walker's own health has improved. She is now "calm, relaxed, no anxiety, and no high blood pressure." She credits the people of Haliburton for her well-being. There is "so much kindness up here, they say 'hi' to you. I have met more people in eight months than in my entire life." Walker wants to give back to the community and once she is settled with her work schedule will approach SIRCH and the Haliburton Legion for volunteer opportunities. She states the "husband and wife team (Mike and Cheryl Waller) at the Legion are sweethearts," and is looking forward to a night off to participate in euchre or board game activities. Walker has gone fishing and camping, but is still waiting for an invitation to go ice fishing.

As a new resident of the Highlands, other than missing restaurants open past 9 p.m., Walker has adapted to her new community. She wishes she "had done this 30 years ago." In Haliburton, she feels as wanted as she is needed.

Beverly Walker. *Submitted.*

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Highlander news

OTF's Klara Oyler, MPP Laurie Scott and HHNTA's Joleen Thomas celebrated a $105,700 investment into trails at Glebe Park Feb. 28. *Photo submitted.*

Sprucing up the ski trails at Glebe Park

By Mike Baker

Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trails Association (HHNTA) president Thom Lambert said Glebe Park has never looked better, amid a backdrop of over 100 skiing enthusiasts enjoying the site's five-kilometre system Feb. 28.

The association was celebrating a $105,700 capital grant from the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), with the money used to climate proof trails in the park.

Lambert said the work – supporting water flow management and allowing for proper drainage - will make it possible to ski earlier and later in the season, while also preserving the integrity of the trails through severe climate events. The money was received last summer, allowing the club to complete work ahead of this winter season.

"The trail work has already made a big difference to our members and the hundreds of winter tourists that travel to ski our trails," Lambert said. "The quality of skiing on the renovated trails was excellent in the early season. Many of our members commented on the improved skiing conditions."

MPP Laurie Scott was at Saturday's celebration, saying the "Nordic trails are a treasured destination for residents and visitors" to the Haliburton region.

County resident Klara Oyler sits on the OTF grant review team. She said the Nordic club grant was one of 730 awarded to non-profit groups across Ontario in 2025.

"We saw this as a good investment for the community," Oyler said. "I think this has been a pretty good skiing season and now, with the work you're doing with the grant, I hope you have many more to come."

The unveiling coincided with the Highlands ski club's annual Jack Rabbit parade. The HHNTA runs a two-month program every winter for children aged four to 12 to encourage them to get into skiing. Lessons run every Saturday in January and February at Glebe Park. The initiative has six levels, with local instructors – all volunteers - following national skill development programming.

Joleen Thomas, HHNTA membership coordinator, said about 80 kids participated in this year's program. Registration opens in November.

"We are going on nearly 40 years of hosting this program locally in Haliburton," Thomas said. "Cross-country skiing is one of the few activities families of all ages can do together… we are creating skiers for life."

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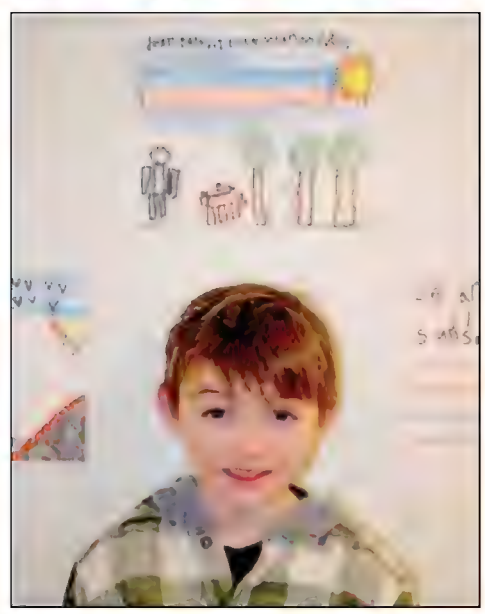

Showing Earth some love

The Agnes Jamieson Gallery in Minden officially opened the third Archie Stouffer Elementary School art exhibition Feb. 28. The exhibit follows a similar theme to its first two iterations, which saw students produce original artwork expressing what Minden means to them (2024) and how they interpret 'The Land Between' (2025). This year, students were urged to explore their thoughts and feelings on the earth, and create a piece of artwork that reflected their innermost sentiments through a medium of their choice. The show will run until March 31. The gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation. *(Lisa Gervais)*

Top: Karin Kleer, Aurora McGinn, and Marina McGowan, look at some of the work. Middle: Mary Hamilton looks at art done by her granddaughter's class. Bottom left: Gr. 3 student, McGowan, with her acrylic paint and chalk pastel on canvas artwork. Bottom right: Marty Lopez expressed his love of wolves. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

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HALIBURTON LEGION

BAR OPENS AT 5:00 PM

DINNER AT 6:30 PM

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The wild game served at this event has not been inspected under the R.S.O meat inspection act.

Domestic meat available

Left: Angelica Ingram helps herself to some food at last week's playground fundraiser. Top right: Stuart Baker and J.D. Hodgson parent council representatives Lauren Adelsen, Kelsey Sharpless and Andrea Hogan. Bottom right: Darla Searle's hospitality and tourism class cooked dinner for around 200 people. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

Using their noodles for foodie fundraiser

By Mike Baker

Lauren Adelsen, chair of the Stuart Baker Elementary School (SBES) parent council, said community spirit was on full display at Hal High last week, with 200 people supporting a foodie fundraiser designed to bring new playground equipment to SBES and J.D. Hodgson.

A 'pasta for playground' benefit was held in the high school cafeteria Feb. 26, adding approximately $10,000 to the kitty. Adelsen said that brings the total to $55,000 in just a few weeks, following a similarly successful poinsettia fundraiser over the holidays.

"I'm really floored by how generous the community has already been," Adelsen said. "This is not just a school project, it's something that benefits the entire community because the playground will be open to people after school hours and during the holidays… if everybody pitched in even a little amount, we would reach our goals that much faster."

Adelsen said the group is hoping to raise $300,000 for the playground replacement. She noted the current pirate ship structure is nearing end-of-life and will likely "only last another year or two."

There was support from all over the community last week, Adelsen said. As well as people pitching in money, the high school's hospitality and tourism class prepared the meal, Haliburton Lions Club volunteers donated their time to serve the food, while Drew Allen offered his musical talents.

Several businesses donated gifts for a live auction, which runs until March 12. There are 15 items featured, available at: www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.122095897880462327&type=3.

Starting out with the SBES parent council in 2023, Adelsen said a new playground has been on both school's wishlists for some time. After two successful launch events, she said there will be more to come later this year.

"We're looking at doing a garage sale in conjunction with the school's annual track and field event. We're also going to have a spring carnival at the end of the school year," Adelsen said. "We're really hoping to have the money to put up a replacement as soon as the current structure is torn down, otherwise the playground will be empty."

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Highlander sports

2026 Municipal Election

Joint Compliance Audit Committee Members

The Corporations of the Township of Algonquin Highlands, the Township of Minden Hills, the Municipality of Dysart et al and the Municipality of Highlands East, are currently seeking interested applicants from professionals who are required to adhere to codes of standards of their profession, and other individuals with in depth knowledge of the campaign financing rules of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* for appointment to a **Joint Compliance Audit Committee.**

The Joint Compliance Audit Committee has full delegation of the authority in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, to address applications requesting an audit of a candidate's election campaign finances. This authority includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Review applications and grant or reject audit requests
- Where an audit is granted, appoint an auditor and review the audit report
- Where indicated, decide whether legal proceedings shall be commenced.

The Joint Compliance Audit Committee will consist of members appointed by each Council. Committee members must have the ability to understand and apply the election campaign finance provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and should be considered impartial with respect to their ability to fulfill their responsibilities. Preference shall be given to candidates that have applicable experience in accounting, law, law enforcement and academics from related fields.

Preferred Qualifications:

(a) Accounting and audit – accountants or auditors with experience in preparing or auditing the financial statements of municipal candidates;
(b) Academic – college or university professors with expertise in political science or local government administration;
(c) Legal; and
(d) Other individuals with knowledge of the campaign financing rules of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996.*

Members of the public interested in serving on this Committee are asked to submit a resume, and covering letter, marked "Confidential" no later than Noon on March 6, 2026 to:

Vicki Bull, Clerk
Township of Minden Hills
Box 359, 7- Milne St., Minden, ON K0M 2K0

For further information, please contact Vicki Bull, Clerk by email at admin@mindenhills.ca

We thank all applicants for applying, but only the selected candidates will be contacted. Personal information and supporting material is collected and used in accordance with the ***Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.***

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Racing back on ice

The Canadian Automobile Sports Clubs (CASC) closed the book on its 2026 ice racing season in Minden March 1. Director Elaine Willis said it was one of the most successful racing years in recent memory. "We got all six weekends in and had a good turnout of drivers and volunteers. As usual, the Kin Club did a great job creating and maintaining the track for us. It's pretty amazing how quickly it goes by." The season ran Jan. 24 to March 1. As is tradition, CASC made a $1,000 donation to the Minden Community Food Centre, with Willis saying, "we are thrilled that we have been able to raise funds for the local food bank again." The money was generated by CASC offering rides to community members in its ice taxi, with longtime racers and volunteers also chipping in, Willis said. *(Mike Baker)*

Top: Minden Community Food Centre directors Jim Wilson (left) and David Elliott (right) accept a $1,000 donation from CASC volunteers Diane Forbes and Elaine Willis. *Submitted.* Middle: Local racer James Rogers, in number 148, maintains a slight lead over Larry Gagnon (number 106) in the street stud front-wheel drive class. Bottom: Rene Levy in number 72 maintains control around a tight bend. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

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Highlander sports

2026 Municipal Election

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- **Nomination Period:**
  - **May 1, 2026 to August 20, 2026** (regular business hours)
  - **August 21, 2026** (9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
- **Candidates must submit signatures of 25 eligible voters, in their municipality, to support their nomination.** (not applicable for School Board Trustee(s))
  For more information, please visit your local municipality's website or contact the Clerks Department.

Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Road Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0 Tel: 705-489-2379 ahelection2026@algonquinhighlands.ca www.algonquinhighlands.ca Dawn Newhook, Municipal Clerk	**Municipality of Highlands East** 2249 Loop Road P.O. Box 295 Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0 Tel: 705-448-2981 www.highlandseast.ca/election Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Dysart et al 135 Maple Avenue P.O. Box 389 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 Tel: 705-457-1740 www.dysartetal.ca Amanda Duncombe-Lee, Municipal Elections Coordinator	**Township of Minden Hills** 7 Milne St P.O. Box 359 Minden, ON K0M 2K0 Tel: 705-286-1260 Toll Free: 1-844-277-1260 Email: elections@mindenhills.ca www.mindenhills.ca Vicki Bull, Municipal Clerk

The fifth-place OFSAA junior boys' team of Kip Kelly, Tristan Humphries, Duncan Evans-Fockler and Alex Lee. *Photo submitted.*

Red Hawk skiiers ribbon at provincials

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton Highlands nordic ski team travelled to the Ontario Federation of Secondary Athletic Associations (OFSAA) championships at Hardwood Hills Ski and Bike in Orillia Feb. 24-25.

Red Hawk skier Violet Humphries, one of the first skiers to travel the 7.6km senior course for the interval races, faced frigid temperatures. Despite the cold, Humphries put down a fast time of 27:20.5 to earn a 10th-place finish in the senior girls' high school division.

OFSAA nordic skiing classifies their skiers into two divisions for individual finishes: high school racers that train exclusively with their school team and open skiers that train and compete with a club.

Ella Gervais finished 40th, Olivia Gruppe 53rd, Grace Allder 58th, and Ruby Morrison 86th in a field of 117 skiers.

As a team, the Hawks finished in ninth place, one spot out of ribbon position.

Senior boy Evan Backus was the top HHSS finisher, gliding over the line in 26:52.7 to place 36th. Winston Ramsdale placed 46th, Graham Backus 55th, Carter Sisco 62nd, Brady Hamilton 71st and Owen Megrah-Poppe 79th. The team finished 13th overall in the Interval races.

On the junior 5.5km course, Annika Gervais skied to a determined fifth-place finish in high school girls. Her time was 20:40.0. Grade 9 skier Anika Suke crossed the line in 12th and Kailey Hoare was 48th, followed closely by Quinn Hamilton in 51st. Alternate Leah Allder finished 72nd out of 106 high school skiers.

The junior girls' performances earned them an eighth-place team finish and a burgundy ribbon.

The junior boy Red Hawks also proved they were a force on snow. Alex Lee was the top finisher in a time of 19:36.5 placing 15th. Tristan Humphries followed closely in 18th, Duncan Evans-Fockler 31st, Kip Kelly 33rd, and Aren Addison 89th out of 120. The boys' performances earned them a fifth-place finish as a team.

Day two saw the temperatures swing upwards towards zero creating very soft and slow conditions in the four-by-one kilometre sprint relay.

The junior skiers once again brought some fire and both skied into the finals in their respective races. Junior girls Annika Gervais, Hoare, Hamilton and Suke brought their speed and grit to knock another seven seconds off their heat time and race into fourth place in the final.

Junior boys Humphries, Lee, Evans-Fockler and Kelly also shaved 16 seconds from their heat time to secure a fifth-place finish. Three of these skiers are in Grade 9.

The senior girls team battled hard and hung on to their ninth-place position out of 16 teams, disappointingly missing the final by one spot. Senior boys moved up from 13th to 10th in the relay out of 21 teams.

HHSS coaches Karen Gervais and Mike Rieger thanked community coaches Joleen Thomas, Judy Suke and Kevin Hoare; community members for volunteering at races and contributing to fundraising efforts; as well as the groomers at Glebe Park.

Highlander sports

Hoopers runners-up

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School senior boys Red Hawks fell 86-39 to Nicholson in COSSA 'A' basketball at Hal High Feb. 26. The Hawks made it to the final after besting Central Hastings 68-40 in semi-final action. Meanwhile, the juniors also lost in the finals, 63-36 to Nicholson. They made it to the finals after beating St. Paul 50-34 *(Lisa Gervais)*

Top: Magnum Moshenko fights for the ball under the opponent's basket. Bottom: Aidyn McGee-Leckie gets a high-five from coach Hunter Smith. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

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Shuffling on

The West Guilford Snow Shuffle returned to local trails this past weekend, with around 225 snowmobilers participating in the 44th annual event. Eric Mallet took home the first-place prize in the poker run, netting himself $3,000 – though he donated $500 back to event organizers to be invested into the West Guilford Community Centre. Once the riding was over, participants returned to the community centre for a dinner and dance. Dysart et al coun. Carm Sawyer, one of the organizers, said it was a great turnout once again. *(Mike Baker)*

Top: Sharon Rowden, Kayla Rowden and Jess Hannah had fun hitting the trails. Bottom: Anthony Casey and Mark Wilbee ran into some trouble on the water. *Photos submitted.*

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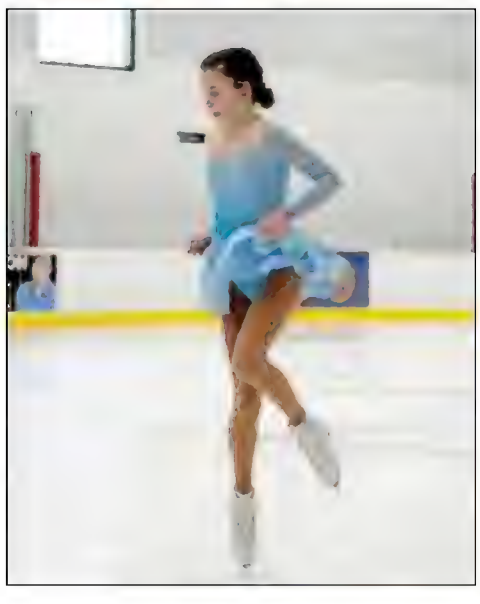
Highlander events

Dancing on ice

The Minden Skating Club presented its annual spring gala at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena March 1, with over a dozen acts taking to the ice to showcase their skills. The skating club, led by coach Jane Symons, is celebrating its 78th year in the Highlands, having formed in March 1948. Symons has been teaching skating techniques to County youth for 45 years, having joined in 1981. *(Mike Baker)*

Top: Front, from left: Kinsley Murdoch, Paislee Cybulski, Haileigh Gallagher, Shelby Lagace, Kathryn Cartwright and Ellie Nimigon. Back: Freyja Neimann-Rowe, Brianna Cartwright and Alexis Feero joined forces for a group performance titled 'better when I'm dancing'. Middle left: The group travels one-legged down the ice. Middle centre: Siblings Josie and Ali Griffin enjoyed performing for the crowd. Middle right: Cybulski was lifted into the air during another team number with Brianna Cartwright, Neimann-Rowe and Feero. Bottom left: Cara Hughey launches into a pirouette. Bottom right: Lucas Stancati was cute as a button portraying a cow. *Photos by Michah Wilson.*



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Forward Liam Oravsky had two points in the Huskies 4-1 win over the Stouffville Spirit in Minden Feb. 28. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Huskies hungry for playoffs

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By Mike Baker

It's do-or-die territory now for the Haliburton County Huskies as they get ready to kick off a seven-game playoff series with the Newmarket Hurricanes this weekend.

Despite a strong end to the regular season, claiming three of four points in a double overtime defeat to the Collingwood Blues Feb. 27 and dominant win over the Stouffville Spirit Feb. 28, the Huskies finished fifth in the Ontario Junior Hockey League's East Conference, one place lower than Newmarket. That gives the Hurricanes home ice advantage in the post-season's opening round.

The blue and white had a winning record against Newmarket across four games this year, going 3-1, but head coach Jordan Bailey doesn't think that will have much bearing once the puck drops in game one March 7.

"It's good that we've had success against them, but playoffs is a different animal altogether. In the second-round last year against the Toronto Jr. Canadiens (now the Newmarket Hurricanes), it was the opposite. We only beat them once in the regular season, but won the series," Bailey said.

"So, while we know we can beat them it really doesn't mean anything once we're into the grind of playoffs," he added.

The bench boss said he's been consistent with his players all year on what he expects from them on the ice. After a tough start to the season, the team turned things around in November and, since before the Christmas holidays, have been one of the league's strongest squads.

Boasting one of the OJHL's best goaltending tandems in Owen Edwards and Carter Nadon, and with a power play that looks to be firing on all cylinders, the Huskies are well-positioned to make another extended post-season run, Bailey said.

"Knowing we have Owen and Carter there to back us up gives the team a lot of confidence. It really helps having two guys who are always ready to go in your back pocket," Bailey said.

He added, "our special teams have been performing well down the stretch, which has definitely given us a boost… but come playoffs, special teams get much tougher because you're playing the same guys night in and night out. Against these guys last year, we only scored one power play goal in the whole series and they didn't score any.

"We've just got to stick true to what got us here and play our game for a complete 60 minutes. We've got to play north and make sure we're chipping pucks behind their defensive line; make sure we're not turning over things and allowing them to counter. They've got a lot of offensive firepower, so how we manage the puck is going to determine how well we do in this series."

Bailey said the team is fully healthy ahead of Saturday's post-season kick off.

While the team doesn't have home advantage – meaning they'll only play three games this series in Minden – Bailey believes local fans have a big part to play.

"Our community support is one of the best in the league. I would assume a lot of fans will travel, like they always do, so we'll have a bunch of fans cheering us on in Newmarket. And we've seen in previous years how big a difference they make in our home rink," Bailey said. "We just can't thank them enough. This team doesn't have the success it's had over the past five seasons without them."

Round one schedule

Game 1: March 7 in Newmarket, 4:30 p.m.
Game 2: March 8 in Minden, 3 p.m.
Game 3: March 10 in Newmarket, 7:30 p.m.
Game 4: March 12 in Minden, 7 p.m.
Game 5: March 14 in Newmarket, 4:30 p.m.
Game 6: March 15 in Minden, 3 p.m.
Game 7: March 18 in Newmarket, 7:30 p.m.

Graduating stars honoured

Before the Huskies 4-1 shellacking of the second-placed Spirit, there was a special moment on the ice for 20-year-old players Christopher Brydges, Carson Durnin, Jack Cook and Nate Taylor – who are all wrapping up their junior hockey careers.

They gathered with their families pre-game, with the Huskies organization acknowledging their contributions this season.

Brydges enjoyed a standout performance, contributing three assists, with Cook also tallying an apple. Goals were scored by Nic Ferrante, Ryan Fairbairn, Brody Coe and Liam Oravsky.

Post-game, Bailey reserved special praise for his veteran players.

"We talked before the game about making sure we finish on a high note for those guys. They've all really stepped up for us at different times this season and it was nice to be able to recognize them a little bit," Bailey said. "Ending on such a high note with a win was perfect.

Home of the Highland Storm

U11 Carquest Storm tame galloping Manvers Mustangs

Highland Storm U11 LL Carquest were victorious against the Manvers Mustangs Black Feb. 28 on home ice.

The teams played a high-intensity game that left spectators on the edge of their seats.

In the first period, Jaxon Pelley sent a pass to Dean DaLanca who found the back of the net. Manvers came back quick to tie the game.

In the second period, Sebastian Dart lasered a pass to Wesley Bramham who pulled ahead and scored the second goal of the game. The Storm held the Mustangs off, ending the second period 2-1.

The third period is where this hockey game turned into a barn burner. The Mustangs snuck in a goal to tie the game once again. Dart answered with a faceoff win at centre ice, making a quick dash down the ice and getting the eventual game-winning goal, for a 3-2 lead.

That is when the Storm got into a rhythm and decided to take it home. The anticipation of every faceoff lead to a roaring crowd cheering on the home team.

You could see the determination building as the excitement grew. The Mustangs thought they might have a fighting chance and pulled their goalie with three minutes left in the game.

A last-ditch effort to keep the lead sent Tripp Meier to the box. A power play and pulled goalie gave the Mustangs a two-man advantage but they still had nothing on the home team with Liam Grant getting another one to make it 4-2 Storm.

Nixon Hopkins, Nolan Gallagher, Arizona Latanville, Chase Casella, Grant, Bramham, Hunter, DaLanca, Dart, Pelley, Francis Gilmour, Keaton DeCarlo, Griffin Hunt, Meier and Isaiah Young locked it down.

Tripp Meier charging forward. *Submitted.*

Manvers did not back down or give up. Gallagher took advantage of a great opportunity putting us up 5-2 in the last two minutes of the game. Back to six versus five for the last minute of the game, the Storm had no choice but to stay engaged and vigilant as the Mustangs made us work for our win until the very last second. *(Submitted).*

STARS of the WEEK

LIAM GRANT

Dove into hockey life on and off ice, practicing and striving to be better always.

NOLAN GALLAGHER

Nolan is showing great positioning and looking for opportunities to make plays.

CHASE CASELLA

Chase has picked up speed and figured out how to use it. Winning the races to loose pucks.

Photos by Tim Tofflemire

SCORE BOARD

Feb. 25
U13 Rep Curry Chevrolet vs Brock 2-0 L
U18 Rep Haliburton Timber Mart vs Millbrook 5-5 T
Feb. 26
U11 Rep Tom Prentice & Sons vs Sturgeon 3-1 W
Feb. 27
U15 Rep Cheryl Smith RE/MAX vs Mariposa 2-0 L
Feb. 28
U11 Rep Tom Prentice & Sons vs Ennismore 6-4 W
U11 Carquest Minden vs Manvers 5-2 W
U9 Cottage Country Building Supplies vs Kawartha 8-3 L
U13 Rep Curry Chevrolet vs Lindsay 4-4 T
U9 MD Haliburton Hockey Haven vs Newcastle 6-1 L
U13 Casey's Water Well and Geothermal vs Durham 3-0 L
U9 Sharp Electric vs Durham 6-4 L
U15 Minden Pharmasave vs Durham 9-3 L
March 1
U9MD Haliburton Hockey Haven vs Orono 2-2 T
U9 Cottage Country Building Supplies vs Brock 4-3 L
U9 Sharp Electric vs Brock 2-2 T
U18 Haliburton Timber Mart vs Brock 6-2 W

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What's on

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Office open 9 a.m. to noon, clubroom closed. Bridge at 1 p.m., youth dart league (ages 10-18) 6:20 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesdays: Cadets after school starts at 5 p.m., meeting starts at 6 p.m. Games and cards night starting at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Darts league 7 p.m. start.
Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, Remembrance Hall. Bingo will resume in the spring.
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month, March to December; ladies auxiliary meeting last Thursday of the month, February to November.
Fridays: Meat draw, five draws, five prize each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets are $2 per draw; fun darts at 4:30 p.m. onwards; 50/50 draw at 5 p.m., tickets are $1 and available in the clubroom.
Saturdays: Open only for special events Clubroom hours: Monday 3-6 p.m., Tues 5-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m., Saturday/Sunday closed.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden

Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Monday to Thursday** with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' **Tuesday**.
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.
Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541
Weekly activities:
Karaoke: call for dates
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week.
Monday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce

Monday: open 7 to 10 p.m. Darts March 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 7 p.m.
Tuesday: closed, special events only. Exercise club March 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday: open 2 to 10 p.m. Darts March 11, 18 and 25 at 2 p.m.; quick supper from 5 to 6:30 p.m.; cribbage at 6:30 p.m.
Thursday: open 2 to 10 p.m. HHHS social rec March 12 and 26 at 10 a.m.
Friday: open 2 to 11 p.m. Fish and chips March 6 and 20 from 5 to 8 p.m., with karaoke from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. March 13 and 27 is community care lunch at noon and wings and jam session from 5 to 8 p.m.
Saturday: open 2 to 9 p.m. Meat draw March 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 3 p.m. St. Patrick's Day dance March 14 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., and trivia March 28 at 7 p.m.
Sunday: closed, special events only.

Royal Canadian Legion – Branch 566 Cardiff

Hours: Sunday and Monday 3 to 6 p.m. and Thursday 3 to 9 p.m.
Events: Breakfast on the first Sunday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m.; euchre on the second Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m.
Shuffleboard every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m.
Music and jam session ever second Saturday of the month from 1 to 4 p.m.
Everyone welcome.

EVENTS

March 6, 1:30 p.m. Celebrating World Day of Prayer at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Minden (7 Bobcaygeon Rd.) with an ecumenical service featuring Nigeria. Refreshments and fellowship to come. All are welcome.

March 7, 2 p.m. The Highlands East Skating Club is hosting its Boot Scootin' Boogie skating carnival at Keith Tallman Memorial Arena in Wilberforce. Admission is free but donations are appreciated. Rinkside snacks will be on-site with light refreshments. Doors open at 1 p.m.

March 7, 7 to 10 p.m. Country night line dancing at the Haliburton Legion. Things kick off with a 1.5 hour lesson followed by an open dance floor. Cost is $15, with kids 14 and under free. Register at always.in.boots.cd@gmail.com.

March 8, 2 p.m. Razzamataz Kids' Shows returns with *The Old Man and the River*, presented by Wee Festival. This performance features puppetry without words, performed alongside an enchanting musical score. Suitable for children of all ages and sensibilities. For tickets, visit www.razzamataz.ca.

March 8, 2 p.m. Gail Stelter is hosting a book launch for her new published story *21 Smithfield Drive* at Haliburton United Church. Refreshments will be provided. RSVP by contacting Gail at 705-455-2772.

March 9, 7 to 9 p.m. The Baha'is of Haliburton County welcomes Rich Anton for a coffee house discussion at the Haliburton Legion focusing on 'my journey through addiction'. There will be music by Peter Smith. Light refreshments will be provided. No admission charge.

March 10, 7 p.m. Environment Haliburton! welcomes guest speaker Dr. Nell Thomas to discuss how 'AI has an environmental problem'. Taking place virtually over Zoom. Register at environmenthaliburton.org.

March 11, 7 to 8 p.m. 100 Women Who Care Haliburton is meeting at Haliburton United Church (10 George St.). This is the first of three gatherings in 2026, where members each donate $100 and choose between three charities operating in the community to donate to. Come early and bring a friend – join, donate and vote.

March 11, 7 to 9 p.m. The Telling Our Stories Speaker Series returns to the HHOA fish hatchery, featuring special guest Dr. James Raffan, who will be discussing his worldly travels – including to the Arctic. Tickets are $15, available at tellingourstories.company.site.

March 12, 4:15 p.m. Those Other Movies presents *The Life of Chuck*. Based on a novella by Stephen King, the story is told in three parts, starting at the end of the main character's life and working back to his childhood. While King is known for horror, this is a tale of love, loss and the small things worth living for. Held at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. Tickets are $10. There will be a second screening at 7:15 p.m.

March 14, 7 p.m. The Wilberforce Agricultural Society is hosting bingo at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre. Cash only, must be 18 years or older to play. There will be a snack bar and cash prizes with a $500 jackpot. Proceeds supporting the society's youth ambassador program. Doors open at 6 p.m.

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Puppets taking centre stage in Haliburton

By Mike Baker

Razzamataz Kids' Shows is back in Haliburton for its penultimate performance of the season March 8.

Toronto-based youth troupe Wee Festival is bringing its popular *Old Man and the River* show to the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion and Razzamataz's Andrea Lithgow is promising it'll be quite the spectacle. It starts at 2 p.m.

"The show features beautifully designed puppets without words, performed along an enchanting musical score," Lithgow said. "It's really paired back on the dialogue. There's no speaking involved at all, so is more visual. That makes it a little more accessible to children of all sensibilities."

She said the 45-minute performance focuses on a grumpy old man who lives in a little house in the woods by a river. Every day is the same, until a magical creature enters his life and changes everything. Lithgow said the show focuses on themes of friendship, communication, play and adjusting to change – making it a perfect learning lesson for young theatre goers.

Celebrating 40 years in the Highlands, Lithgow said Razzamataz shows are a great way to introduce children to live performances.

"This is all about making sure kids have fun and get comfortable going to the theatre," she said. "They're a very accessible bitesize experience… exposing them to professional productions that give them a sense of wonder or excitement that can spark their own artistic interests."

The group operates as a non-profit, aiming to keep ticket prices low so that people can afford to attend. Adult tickets are $10 and children $7. Lithgow said Razzamataz is sponsored by the Haliburton County Development Corporation, Haliburton Highlands Arts Council, Haliburton Rotary, the Kennisis Lake Cottage Association and CanoeFM.

Students at Cardiff and Stuart Baker elementary schools will get to see the show March 9 as part of Razzamataz's 'Theatre in Schools' initiative. Launched last year, Lithgow said the idea is to bring a free performance to a different local elementary school every season.

"We're aiming to address income and transportation barriers, meeting kids where they are with professional theatre shows," Lithgow said.

There's one more performance on the Razzamataz schedule, with Chris McKhool bringing his musical show *Earth, Seas and Air* to Haliburton April 12.

Also on the agenda

• It's Winter Folk Camp at Camp Wanakita all weekend long. Running March 6-8, the Haliburton County Folk Society is hosting three days of workshops featuring six performers. There will be song circles and jam sessions each night, with two sold-out concerts to wrap things up.

• The Highlands East Skating Club is welcoming people to Keith Tallman Memorial Arena Saturday for its 'Boot Scootin' Boogie' skating carnival. Admission is free with doors opening at 1 p.m.

• The theme continues later in the day with Always in Boots Country Dancing hosting a line dancing class at the Haliburton Legion. Instructor Karley Stevenson will put people through their paces for a one-and-a-half-hour beginner lesson from 7 to 8:30 p.m., followed by an open dance floor.

• On Sunday, local author Gail Stelter is hosting a book launch at 2 p.m. at the Haliburton United Legion for her new published story *21 Smithfield Drive*.

Razzamataz Kids' Shows returns March 8 with a puppeteering performance *Old Man and the River. Submitted.*

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MARCH BREAK AT THE SG NESBITT MEMORIAL ARENA

• Join our March Break camp for the full week or single day.

• A Babysitters Course is scheduled for Tuesday March 17th from 9:00am-4:00pm for $40 for youth 11-15 years old.

• A Home Alone Safety for Kids Course is being offered on Friday March 20th from 9:00am-4:00pm for $40 for youth 9-12 years old.

• Extra drop-in skating times have been added to the schedule for the week and you can also sign up for Zoo To You coming for 2 different session on Monday March 16th.

Take a look at the full list of events online at www.mindenhills.ca/recreation

WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1st to Apr 30th overnight parking is illegal from midnight to 8:00 a.m. on township roadways and parking lots. Parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in areas that interferes with snow removal will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

• March 12 – Regular Council Meeting
• March 26 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

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• Join us for the 3rd annual Archie Stouffer Student Art Exhibition on display until March 21 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. All are welcome. Admission is by donation.

• A selection of artwork from the Agnes Jamieson Gallery's permanent collection, as well as new acquisitions, is now on display. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. All are welcome. Admission is by donation.

• We will host a free screening of And We Knew How to Dance: Women in World War I (1993) on Thursday, March 5 at 1:00 p.m. The documentary tells the stories of 12 Canadian women who worked in munitions factories and on farms during the First World War, stepping into roles traditionally held by men. Presented in collaboration with the Haliburton County Public Library. Admission is free. No pre-registration is required.

• The UnFinished Objects (UFO) craft group will meet on Friday, March 6 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Join other local crafters in the Welch Room to work on your neglected projects. All are welcome.

For information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

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Highlander classifieds

SERVICE

HANDYMAN – Carpentry, General Repairs. Call or Text Doug at 416-889-8534

KITCHEN AID STAND MIXER - Is your Kitchen Aid Stand Alone Mixer leaking oil, doesn't run as it should, or making noises? SOUNDS LIKE IT NEEDS SERVICING - I SERVICE AND REPAIR - all work is guaranteed CALL CLIFF 705-887-0770

GENERAL CARPENTRY – 40 years of experience. Small jobs welcome. Free quote. Call Bill at 705-372-3778

FOR SALE

FOR SALE – GUILFORD FIREWOOD – Nicely cut and split, ready to burn. $140. per face cord – pick up. Delivery available, call 705-754-3034

FOR SALE - Native pollinator plants for sale. Visit haliburton micromeadows.ca or email Baz Conlin at haliburtonmm@gmail.com for more info. Pre-sales running until April 20th.' I'd like to run it for the next 7 or 8 issues, until the week of April 20th.

FOR SALE – 2018 Side by Side, with chains, plows & cover for machine. 1,400 kms $12,000. of B/O Also, Utility Box, fits full size single cab truck. $2,500. or B/O Call 705-457-3283

FOR RENT

FOR RENT - One bedroom upper level apartment, screened porch, satellite TV, walking distance to downtown, schools & hospital. No pets, non-smoker, $1,500.00 per month includes heat, hydro, a/c and satellite TV. Call 705-455-9878

FOR RENT – Spacious ground floor 1 bedroom apt in town of Haliburton. Has 2 separate entrances, small deck, parking, self contained. $1,600/month plus utilities. Available immediately. Call Charles 416-771-1635 HELP WANTED

WANTED

WANTED – Elderly lady looking for a Physiotherapist for home visits, in the town of Minden. Please call 905-252-5529

J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

NOTICE

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS - Sundays - 10:30 am at St. Anthony's, 27 Victoria Street Haliburton. Wednesdays - 7:00 PM at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St. in Minden - rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

THANK YOU

Thank You

The family of the late Judy Carpenter would like to express a special thank you to our wonderful family and friends.

Your words of kindness and thoughtfulness have brought us comfort during this challenging time of loss.

We genuinely appreciate the phone calls, messages, cards, and lovely food delivered to our home. It has helped us immensely and meant so much.

To all the compassionate staff and friends at Hyland Crest. We sincerely thank you from the bottom of our hearts. The love, and kindness provided during our dear Wife/Mom "Judy's" stay was absolutely exceptional!

Also, a thank you to Barry, Kirsten, and staff at Gordon A. Monk's Funeral Home for their professional guidance, support, and assistance to our family.

We are so thankful to you all for your warmth and kindness.

Albert, Scott Carpenter and Rich, Angie and Josh Chapple

NOTICE

AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Thursdays 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and Mondays 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org All are welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Admission is free and the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. This meeting is for addicts only. New meeting in Haliburton that meets every Thursday from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at 83 Maple Ave. Unit 7A in Haliburton Halco Plaza, behind Castle Antiques. For more information and an online version visit www.cloana.org or call 1-888-811-3887

CONTACT US TO BOOK YOUR SPOT TODAY!

TheHighlander

2026 HANDBOOK

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Skycor Locksmithing
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705-879-9668
www.skycor.ca
@skycorlocksmithing

WANTED

WANTED ANTIQUES

Furniture, old signs, gold or costume jewellery, wrist and pocket watches, old coins, sterling silver, teacups, china, books, records, miltary items, paintings, **anything old**.

BOB CARRUTH • 705-887-1672

LEGAL NOTICE

In the matter of the Estate of Rita Baird, late of Minden, Ontario, Deceased.

All claims against the above estate, supported by Statutory Declaration must be sent to the attention of:

Julie Charboneau, PO Box 80, West Guilford, Ontario, K0M 2S0, on or before the 16th of April, 2026
Dated at Haliburton, Ontario, this 5th day of March, 2026

Julie Charboneau, Executor
PO Box 80, West Guilford,
Ontario, K0M 2S0

HELP WANTED

The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires:

One (1) Cybersecurity Analyst

Reporting to the Director of IT, the newly created role of Cybersecurity Analyst provides functional leadership for the County's cybersecurity program and leads day-to-day information security operations The successful applicant will possess post-secondary education in IT or a related discipline and three (3) years of progressive experience. This position is eligible for remote work.

One (1) Administrative Clerk

Reporting to the Executive Assistant, the Administrative Clerk provides a range of clerical and administrative support such as preparing meeting materials, taking minutes, maintaining filing systems. The successful candidate will possess related administrative experience and demonstrated proficiency with Microsoft Office 365. The 2026 hourly rate for this unionized CUPE 1960 position is $27.00.

Full-time employment with the County of Haliburton includes participation in the OMERS defined benefit pension program and comprehensive, employer paid extended healthcare benefits.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than **March 20, 2026, at 4:30pm**.

We thank all who apply for this position; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act,* the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

Highlander classifieds

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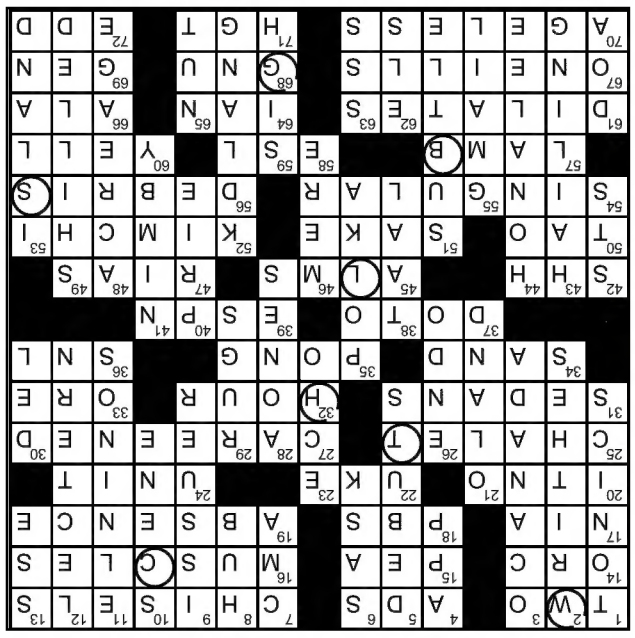
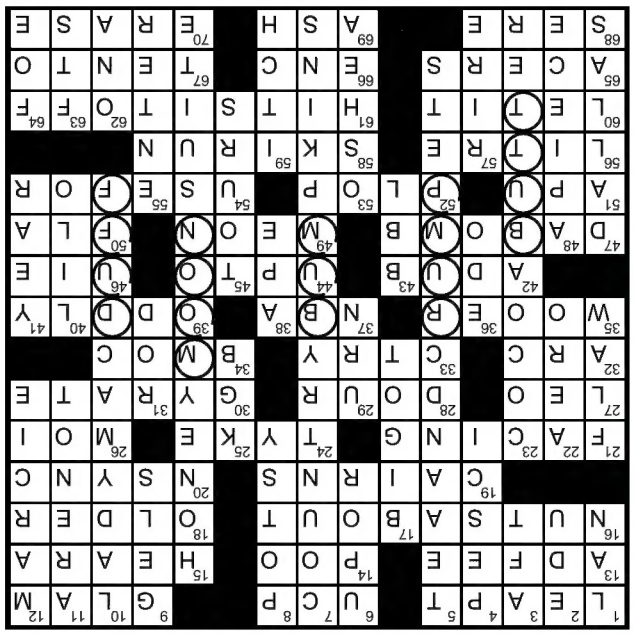
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



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OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Zosia Hussey

(nee Lesnik)

November 15, 1941 – February 20, 2026

We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Zosia Hussey on February 20, 2026, at the age of 84, surrounded by her family.

Born and raised on the family farm in Newtonville, Ontario, Zosia (or, as everyone knew her, Zosh) enjoyed life with her parents, Anna and Dymitro, and her brother, Zory. She attended a local public school and high school in Port Hope. She worked on the farm and, as a teenager, on local tobacco farms in the area.

In 1963, she was hired as a secretary by General Motors, where she met her future husband, Wayne. In 1965, they wed and, in 1967, moved into their house in Oshawa, a home she loved and lived in for the rest of her life. In 1974, they built a cottage on Drag Lake in Haliburton and enjoyed hosting family and friends.

Zosia was a devoted wife to Wayne for 60 years, an incredibly dedicated and amazing mother who loved her son, Jimmy, her daughter, Kim and her son-in-law, Scott. She was a doting and very proud grandmother of Maddie, Kirstie and Sean. There was rarely a sports game or school event that she missed to cheer them on. She loved celebrating every family milestone, big or small, and had a way of making everyone feel special. Even the family pets felt her love when she always arrived with treats for them.

Zosia worked in retail (Hallmark and No Frills) and used her creativity and talent to make beautiful handmade toys and decorations in her craft business and for gifts. Her cooking and baking skills were legendary; perogies, cabbage rolls and shish kabobs will never taste as good.

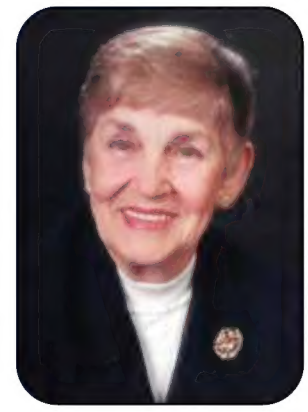
Zosia will be missed by her husband, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and the many friends she loved. Many have said she was like a second Mom to them, a tribute to her generosity and kindness. She leaves behind a legacy of stories, lessons, values, and love. She will be dearly missed and always in our hearts.

The family wishes to thank the doctors and nurses at Lakeridge Health Oshawa for their care and compassion.

As per Zosia's wishes, a small, private graveside ceremony will be held. In lieu of flowers, donations made in her honour to SickKids Hospital in Toronto would be greatly appreciated at https://www.sickkids.ca/en/support-sickkids/donate/.

In Loving Memory of

Lois Marilyn Titus



My dear wife and best friend Lois Titus passed away at Hyland Crest Long Term Care Home on Friday, February 27, 2026 at noon, in her 93rd year.

A most loving wife to Cecil for 72 years. Lois leaves behind son Rodney, daughter Judy and grandson Jordan Titus. Lois and Cecil moved to Minden from Markham 52 years ago, settling into a happy life in Minden.

The family would like to thank the staff at Hyland Crest for all of their great care.

An interment will take place at a later date in the Minden Cemetery. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

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LAURIE@THEHIGHLANDER.CA

Your photo could be the cover of our Highlander Handbook!

Send us your high quality photos* (2 MB min) to be used for this year's Highlander Handbook

Please ensure the photographer's name is in the email and send entries to:

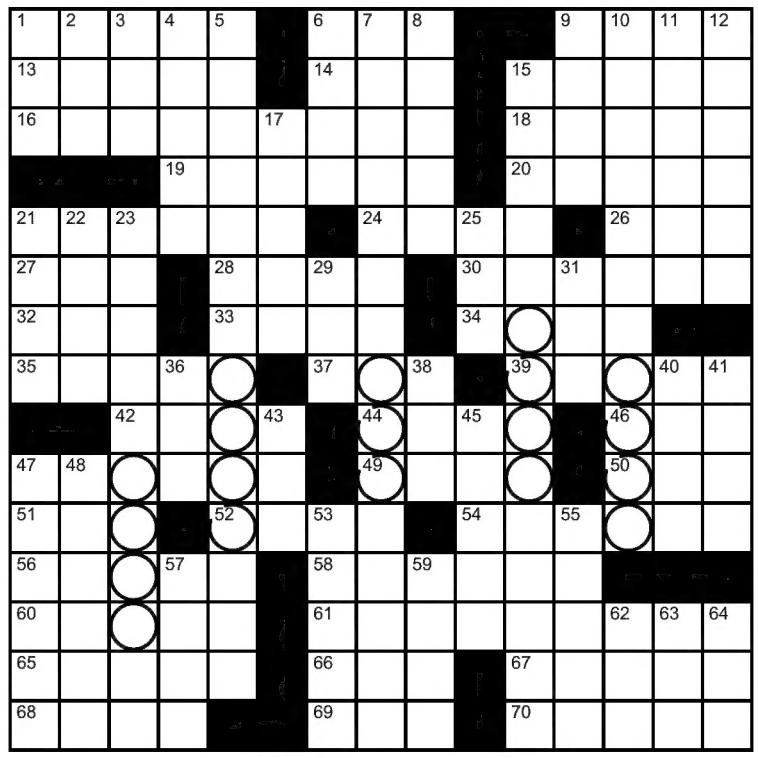
production@thehighlander.ca

**Limit of 3 photos.*

Highlander puzzles

Falling Behind

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords



Across

1 Moved like a frog
6 Danielle Smith's political grp.
9 Glitzy music genre
13 Price to pitch
14 Cock-a-___ (dog breed)
15 Could ___ pin drop
16 Gaga over
18 Wiser, to some
19 Memorial mounds of stones
20 Timberlake's former band
21 Seeing eye to eye with, in a way
24 Pre-K registrant, e.g.
26 "Excusez-___"
27 MGM mascot
28 Sullen and broody
30 Do a hula, e.g.
32 Frown shape
33 Nation: Abbr.
34 Coll. hotshot
35 Posy presenter, perhaps
37 The Raptors' org.
39 In a peculiar way
42 Rub-___ (early reggae)
44 Until
46 Driver's one-eighty
47 Way cool
49 "Call ___ my cell ..." (Drake lyric)
50 Keys state: Abbr.
51 "The Simpsons" merchant
52 It sounds like a drop in the bucket
54 Employ in order to
56 Unit in a gas price
58 Bunny hill, for one
60 ___ go (stop obsessing over)
61 Gets along from the get-go
65 PCs from Taiwan
66 S.A.S.E., say
67 ___ one (long odds)
68 Drought-ravaged
69 Forehead crucifix substance
70 Wipe out

Down

1 Computer syst. acronym
2 Academic URL abbr.
3 Rudder area
4 Joe of "Goodfellas"
5 English beverage-with-biscuits fare
6 "Shape ___ ship out!"
7 Backwoodsy folk
8 Hopscotch, by another name
9 Reacts to pectin
10 First of Macbeth's murder victims
11 Victoria's "we/amused" filler
12 Bespectacled girl of "Peanuts"
15 Niagara Falls hotel room, maybe
17 Archie Bunker type
21 Ambition, for Macbeth
22 Dynamic start?
23 Tanning lotion ingredient
25 Russian spy org.
29 Cremains container
31 Optical cone counterpart
36 Tokyo's former name
38 Do like
40 "___ & Stitch" (cartoon)
41 D/M/Y part
43 31 gal.
45 Swift's Eras and Journey's Freedom
47 Series with J.R. and Sue Ellen
48 Per unit
53 "Ulysses" star Milo
55 Formal reply to a knock
57 Juste pour ___ (Montreal comedy festival)
59 Fingernails target
62 ___ whim
63 Alta.'s Mackay, Macleod and McMurray: Abbr.
64 The "them"

Looking for ladies that played soft-ball multiple years from 1960-89!

The Haliburton County Ladies Softball League are being honoured in the Haliburton County Hall of Fame!

Please contact me if you played and can attend. **Induction is 2pm, May 23rd.**
Also looking for action shots, please send to: **cheryl_greg4@hotmail.com**

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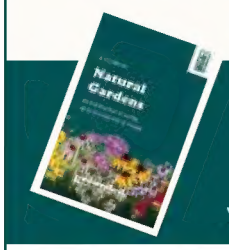

For a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca.

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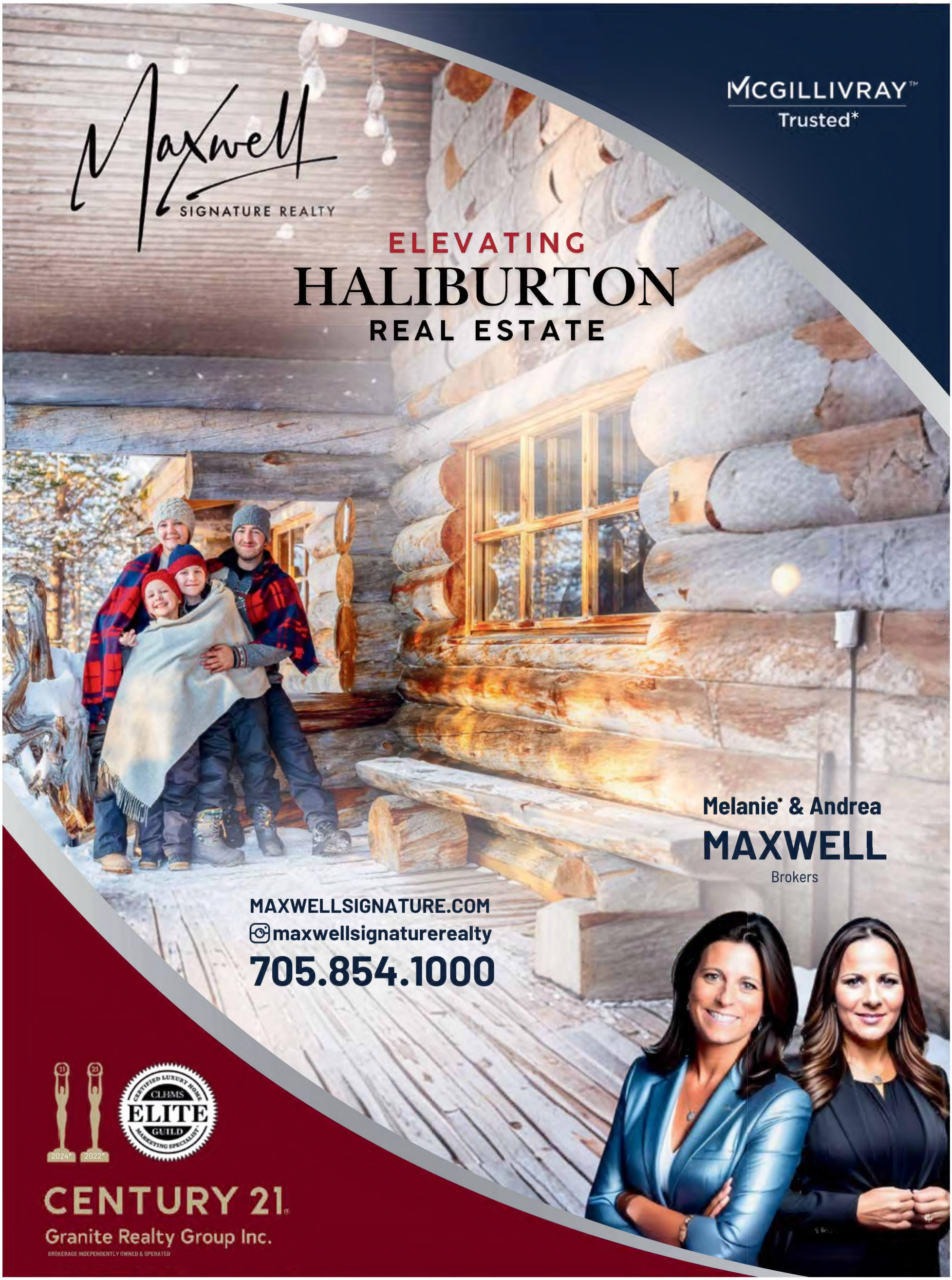
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